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[illegible]

Mortality. The principal interest of this study is to establish the curve of survival showing, for 100 children born alive, the number surviving at one year, five years, ten years, etc., until the extinction of the group. The life expectancy at birth is given by this curve.

For the best, we can make this study with the assumption that the lives of the individuals stopped on the first of January 1955, the date on which one may consider that the conditions which influence mortality have changed, always all so far as the children are concerned.

The study of the mortality of the children born since the first of January 1955, dealt with in part, will furnish useful elements of comparison.

Completeness of the mortality table. Taking up again the records of the 181 women whose lives are completely known to us, and including the children who died in early infancy (0-2), we have marked down all their children, year by year, on a table.

Table of mortality referring to 1 January 1955 (10)

Year of birth	Deceased children			Still living	Surviving	Average age at death of deceased children	Deceased between
	1-5 years	6-9 years	Infant (less than 2 years)		Total children		
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	49	[illegible]	6 years	0
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0	50	[illegible]	6	1
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0	47	[illegible]	6	1
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	49	[illegible]	6	0
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0	49	[illegible]	6	0
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	139	[illegible]	5	0

It was very particularly careful in noting down children who died in early infancy, an important cause of error in populations without civil records. The age of the children at the time of death has been estimated according to the following guidelines based on the study

/ 139 cont. /

Interruption of conjugal relations after the birth. For three months after delivery the mother must stay away from men and even avoid touching them. Conjugal relations must be interrupted until the child begins to walk alone (eleven to 14 months). However, it is tolerated (but disapprovingly) that they be interrupted only for the time until the child begins to drag himself on his knees /139/ (eight months). They cite the example of Salma's wife who has many children after pregnancies at the most reasonable.

Actually, the interruptions of conjugal relations tends to be reduced more and more, the women having condemned such practices and tending to reduce the duration of breast feeding.

Each woman acts as she wishes in this respect; the husband has no power to restrain her.

The Name

Existence of several independent names. Each Gilbertese has two names, the *aoti ngai* or big name, given by the father, and the *aikiu ngai* or little name, given by the mother.

These two names are given in totally independent fashion. Commonly the *aikiu ngai* is given first; in former days they used to wait until the child was six to eight months old; nowadays it is given at the end of a few weeks. The head of the lineage does not intervene either in the choice or the giving of the name.

As a matter of fact, nearly three-quarters of the Banis are designated by one single name, either because the father and mother agreed to give the same name or because one of the two names fell into disuse.

To these two principal names may be added any number of names and cognomens given by the grandparents and later by friends or spouse; often one of the names ends by being given